

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. The FCC has the power and mandate to intervene and stop this abuse of our public airwaves.

Sinclair uses the airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Perhaps the leadership of Sinclair wants to see to the re-election of our incumbent president, George W. Bush - they will have their chance to weigh in on Election Day, like every other citizen. However manipulating the airwaves for such narrow, self-serving ends will have a long and damaging impact on our democracy. Please use the powers that are afforded to you to intervene now.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you for your time.